

In the Claims

Kindly cancel Claims 1 - 19 without prejudice and without disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Kindly add the following new Claims 20 - 38:

--20. A method for processing at least one substance in a reservoir of a microdosing device designed for microdroplet delivery, comprising the steps of:

arranging a solid carrier material as a solid phase with a binding-active surface in the reservoir;

uptaking a solution or suspension of the substance into the reservoir;

moving the carrier material in the reservoir and binding the substance to a surface of the carrier material; and

treating and/or collecting the substance in the reservoir.

21. The method according to Claim 20, further comprising repeatedly uptaking the solution or suspension of the substance into the reservoir, and binding the substance to the carrier material so that the substance is collected in the reservoir.

22. The method according to Claim 20 further comprising uptaking an elution agent into the reservoir, and resolving the substance bound to the carrier material with said elution agent.

23. The method according to Claim 20, further comprising moving the carrier material, which comprises magnetic particles, with a changeable magnetic field.

24. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the changeable magnetic field is formed by simultaneous movement of permanent magnets in relation to the reservoir.

25. The method according to Claim 23 in which the changeable magnetic field is generated by electromagnets or microsuperconductors.

26. The method according to Claim 20, further comprising moving the carrier material, which comprises a carrier pad, with a mechanical actuating element.

27. The method according to Claim 20, wherein the dosing device is a microdispenser or a micropipette.

28. The method according to Claim 20, wherein processing the substance is selected from the group consisting of concentration, purification, preparation and synthetization.

29. The method according to Claim 20, wherein the volume of the reservoir is less than 500 μ l.

30. A device for processing at least one substance, comprising:
a microdosing device having a reservoir in which a solid carrier material with a binding-active surface is movably arranged, the reservoir having an outlet that delivers microdroplets; and

a drive device located outside the reservoir for holding and moving the carrier material in the reservoir.

31. The device according to Claim 30, wherein the microdosing device is a micropipette or a microdispenser.

32. The device according to Claim 30, wherein the carrier material comprises magnetic particles.

33. The device according to Claim 32, wherein the drive device comprises a magnet device.

34. The device according to Claim 33, wherein which the magnet device comprises at least one permanent magnet.

35. The device according to Claim 30, wherein the carrier material comprises a porous carrier pad.

36. The device according to Claim 30, further comprising a multitude of microdosing devices each having a reservoir, and a drive device comprising a multitude of magnet devices or carrier pads.

37. The device according to Claim 36 in which the multitude of microdosing devices comprise a row of piezoelectric microdispensers.


A 38. The device according to Claim 30 in which the volume of the reservoir is less than 500 μ l.--

Remarks

We have amended the Specification to contain headings to place it into conformance with U.S. Rules of Practice. We have also rewritten the Claims by canceling the originally filed Claims and substituting a new set of Claims 20 - 38.

We respectfully request that the Application be forwarded to the appropriate art unit for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,


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